

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
POSTAL REGULATORY COMMISSION  
WASHINGTON, DC 20268-0001

Before Commissioners:

Robert G. Taub, Acting Chairman;  
Nanci E. Langley, Vice Chairman;  
Mark Acton; and  
Tony Hammond

Periodic Reporting  
(Proposal Four)

Docket No. RM2016-12

ORDER GRANTING, IN PART, MOTION FOR  
EXTENSION OF DEADLINE TO COMMENT

(Issued October 4, 2016)

On September 30, 2016, United Parcel Service, Inc. (UPS) filed a motion which requests a 14-day extension to the deadline for filing comments.<sup>1</sup> The Commission initially scheduled October 7, 2016, as the deadline for comments and October 21, 2016, as the deadline for reply comments.<sup>2</sup>

UPS states that the deadline for the Postal Service's responses to Chairman's Information Request No. 3 is set for October 5, 2016, two days before comments are

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<sup>1</sup> United Parcel Service, Inc.'s Motion for Extension of Time to File Comments Regarding Proposal Four, September 30, 2016 (Motion).

<sup>2</sup> See Order No. 3482, Notice of Proposed Rulemaking on Analytical Principles Used in Periodic Reporting (Proposal Four), August 24, 2016, at 3 (Notice).

due.<sup>3</sup> Thus, it argues that in order to have sufficient time to review and analyze the responses, it will need additional time when preparing its comments. Additionally, UPS states that it has just filed another motion requesting additional information.<sup>4</sup> If the motion is granted, UPS contends it will need additional time to incorporate these responses into its comments.

The Postal Service does not object to a one-week extension of the comment deadline, as long as the reply comment deadline is extended as well.<sup>5</sup> However, the Postal Service contends that UPS has not justified the requested two-week extension. *Id.*

The Postal Service notes that the Commission initially established a six-week comment period. *Id.*; see Notice at 3. It states that UPS waited two weeks before requesting access to the materials filed under seal in this docket.<sup>6</sup> It declares that UPS then waited until 10 days before comments were due to file its first motion asking for an information request.<sup>7</sup> It notes that since that time, UPS has filed a second motion seeking an additional information request.<sup>8</sup> The Postal Service concludes that the need for an extension of time is “entirely of UPS’s own creation.” Response at 2.

The Commission finds that a two-week extension is not justified in this instance. The initial six-week comment period provides ample time to request at least two sets of information requests directed to the Postal Service and incorporate any responses into comments. Participants are reminded that prompt action is required on their part to meet established procedural schedules.

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<sup>3</sup> Motion at 2; see Chairman’s Information Request No. 3, September 29, 2016. This information request incorporates questions from United Parcel Service, Inc.’s Motion for Issuance of Information Request to the United States Postal Service, September 27, 2016 (Information Request No. 1).

<sup>4</sup> See United Parcel Service, Inc.’s Second Motion for Issuance of Information Request to the United States Postal Service, September 29, 2016 (Information Request No. 2).

<sup>5</sup> Response of the United States Postal Service to UPS Motion for Extension of Time for Initial Comments, October 3, 2016, at 1 (Response).

<sup>6</sup> Response at 1; see United Parcel Service, Inc.’s Motion for Access, September 7, 2016.

<sup>7</sup> Response at 2; see Information Request No. 1.

<sup>8</sup> Response at 2; see Information Request No. 2.

Regardless, the proposals in this docket present complex issues. The Commission's analysis of these issues will benefit from the filing of well-informed comments, which will benefit from the incorporation of responses to outstanding information requests. Furthermore, the Postal Service does not object to a one-week extension of the deadlines.

The Commission extends the deadline for comments until October 17, 2016. This is slightly longer than one week to account for the intervening weekend and holiday. The deadline for reply comments is likewise extended until October 31, 2016.

*It is ordered:*

1. United Parcel Service, Inc.'s Motion for Extension of Time to File Comments Regarding Proposal Four, filed September 30, 2016, is granted, in part.
2. Comments by interested persons in this proceeding are due no later than October 17, 2016. Reply comments are due no later than October 31, 2016.

By the Commission.

Stacy L. Ruble  
Secretary